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15 December 1961

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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15 December 1961

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

1. Situation in the Congo. (*Page i*)

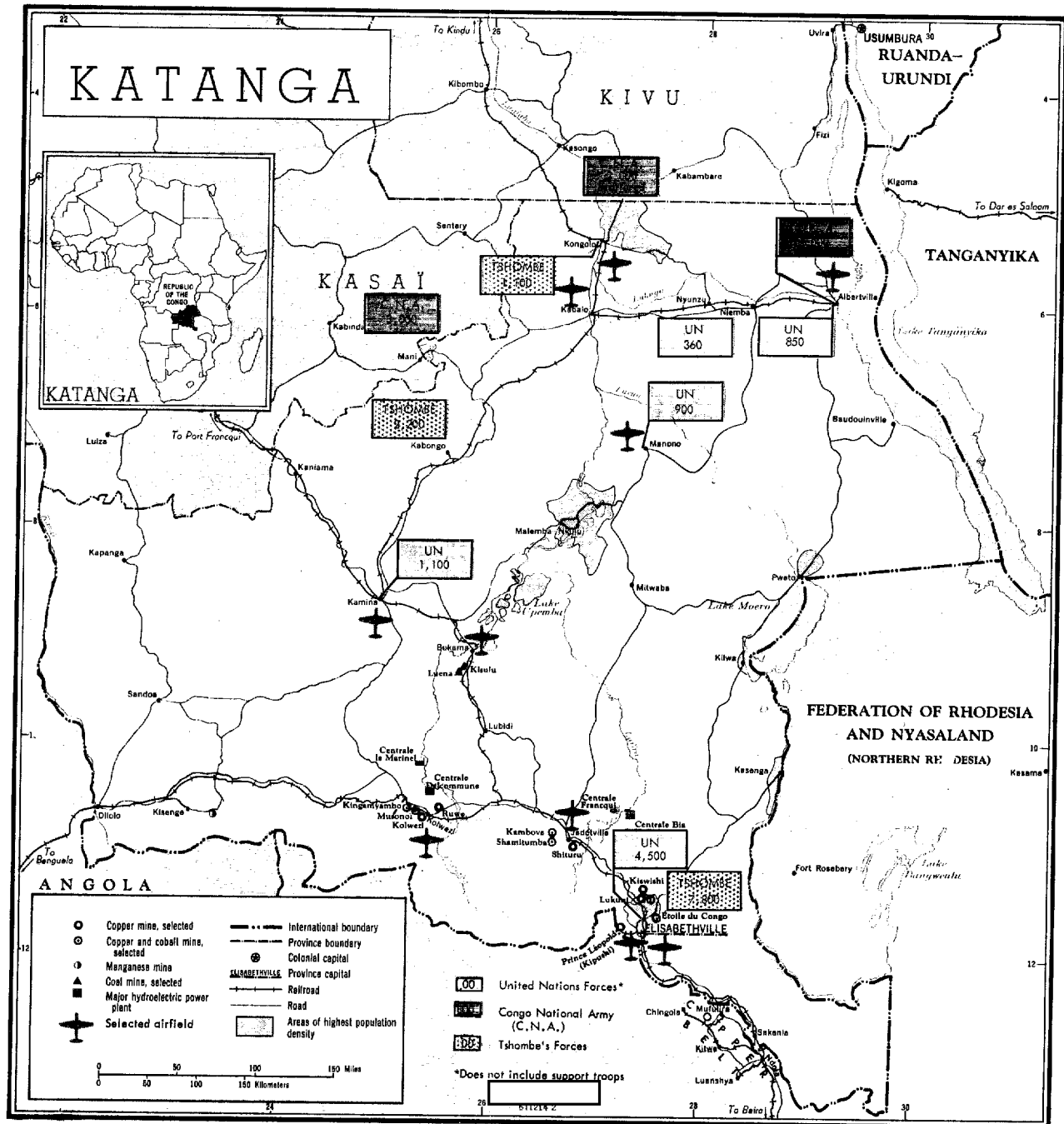


25X6

4. India - North Vietnam: Nehru advises Hanoi to stop encouraging "guerrillas" in South Vietnam. (*Page iii*)
5. Syria: Nazim al-Qudsi elected President. (*Page iii*)
6. Okinawa: Chances of leftist candidate for mayor of Naha improve. (*Page iv*)

25X1





25X1

25X1

15 Dec 61

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

Map Page

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

15 December 1961

DAILY BRIEF

25X1

*Congo: The UN military commander in the Congo, General McKeown, arrived in Elisabethville on 14 December, and UN spokesmen in New York regard a UN assault as imminent.

Tshombé's 14 December appeals for foreign intervention in the Katanga crisis probably reflect concern over stepped-up UN military preparations in Elisabethville. [Tshombé has moved to get Washington to nominate a negotiator to bring about talks between himself and Adoula.] Tshombé has periodically expressed interest in foreign mediation, but has not indicated a disposition to moderate his insistence on Katangan sovereignty.

25X1

[In Leopoldville, Adoula has expressed concern regarding European sentiment for a cease-fire in Katanga, asserting that such a move would bring about the fall of his government and plunge the Congo into a "full crisis."]

25X1

(Backup, Page 1) (Map)

25X1

25X1

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India - North Vietnam: In a discussion with North Vietnamese Health Minister Thach, Ho Chi Minh's personal envoy, in New Delhi on 8 December, Nehru impressed on Thach his strong conviction that President Kennedy wanted peace in the area. Nehru has informed Ambassador Galbraith that he told Thach this purpose would be best served if Hanoi stopped encouraging the "guerrillas." Foreign Secretary Desai, in a separate conversation with Thach, made the point that the US Government had no alternative but to support the Saigon regime with military aid as long as North Vietnam maintained its pressure. In a related development, New Delhi has instructed ICC Chairman Parthasarathi to defer a proposed report to the Geneva cochairmen on introduction of US arms aid to Saigon until a specific complaint was registered by Hanoi, in order to avoid Soviet and British involvement at this time. Thach earlier this month visited Indonesia and Burma in an attempt to stimulate neutralist reaction against US aid to South Vietnam. //

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25X1

Syria: Dr. Nazim al-Qudsi, a conservative, was overwhelmingly elected President of Syria on 14 December. In an 11 December speech heralding the resumption of power by the civilians, army commander in chief Gen. Zahr al-Din admonished Syria's political leaders to refrain from embroiling the army in politics and delivered a veiled threat that the army would remain on the sidelines only so long as Syria's political

15 Dec 61

DAILY BRIEF

iii

25X1

25X1

factions set aside their own narrow interests and refrain from conspiring with foreign powers, including other Arab states.

25X1

25X1

Okinawa: A leftist victory in the election for mayor of the capital city of Naha on 17 December would strengthen Ryukyuan elements which favor immediate reversion to Japan, stimulate new Japanese overtures for increased participation in Ryukyuan affairs, and promote agitation against US military bases. The leftist coalition candidate, Eiko Miyazato, appears to have improved prospects for winning the election. The leftist campaign has been invigorated by the victory of a pro-Communist in a neighboring mayoralty contest three weeks ago, by popular resentment of the US following the crash of a fighter aircraft which killed two Ryukyans on 7 December, and by active support from Socialist and Communist organizations in Japan. Mayor Saichi Kaneshi, although lacking a political organization, until recently had been regarded as likely to win re-election on the strength of his four-year record as mayor. (Backup, Page 2)

25X1

SELECTED INTELLIGENCE REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

(Available during the preceding week)

Short-term prospects for Brazil under Goulart until the Oct '62 elections: current political situation, economic problems, and future outlook. U.S.I.B. SNIE 93-2-61. Dec 7 '61.

25X1

Possible developments in Katanga: assessment of possibilities for negotiations with the Central Government, consequences of Tshombé's departure, and consequences of a continued impasse with the Central Government. U.S.I.B. SNIE 65-2-61. Dec 7 '61.

25X1

15 Dec 61

DAILY BRIEF

iv

25X1

The Situation in the Congo

25X1 [The UN buildup in Elisabethville continues to be accompanied by divergent views among UN officials concerning the timing of a UN offensive and its ultimate objectives. A senior UN official in New York has described the UN's objectives as the restoration of security and freedom of movement for its personnel in Elisabethville, together with the inauguration of negotiations between Tshombé and Adoula. The US Consulate in Elisabethville, however, reports that local UN officials hope that no "political nonsense" will interfere with a "military solution" in Katanga.]

[UN military commander McKeown indicated to the US Embassy in Leopoldville on 13 December that he was satisfied with the situation in Elisabethville and that plans to secure the city would be implemented on 14 December. In New York, a senior military adviser to the secretary general told US officials on the same day that "all-out operations" should start on 15 or 16 December, and stated that the UN has no plans beyond those intended to assure its control in Elisabethville.]

25X1 The US Consulate in Elisabethville has characterized the UN Command as "woefully lacking in a realistic assessment of the enemy." According to the consulate, local UN officials reacted with "shock and disbelief" to an estimate by the consulate that morale among Tshombé's forces continues high. [redacted]

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Okinawan Mayoral Election Campaign

[Propaganda support, presumably accompanied by financial assistance, from Japanese leftists has sharpened Okinawan interest in the election and probably will result in a large turnout, possibly in excess of 75 percent of the estimated 125,000 eligible voters. The three-way contest which has developed, involving conservative candidate Junji Nishime in addition to Kaneshi and Miyazato, threatens to split the moderate vote.]

[The Japanese Government continues to seek an expanding role in Ryukyuan affairs and has drafted an economic and technical assistance program for the coming year amounting to \$2,900,000. This figure exceeds the program which the US high commissioner for the Ryukyus believes is feasible under existing political and economic conditions. Tokyo, on the other hand, asserts that the expanded program is necessary to satisfy Japanese public expectations--many of them officially inspired--and is warranted by informal US-Japanese pledges of support for Ryukyuan welfare made during Prime Minister Ikeda's visit to the US last summer.]

[The Naha mayoralty contest of 1956 became the focal point for Okinawan grievances against US policies in the Ryukyus, particularly the means of acquiring and paying for land used for military purposes, and led to a large protest vote which elected pro-Communist Kamejiro Senaga as mayor. Although Senaga was ousted the following year through the combined actions of the US civil administration and the Naha city assembly, the furor attending the election and ouster aroused reversionist sentiment in both Japan and the Ryukyus and prompted Tokyo's first moves for a role in administering the islands. Senaga is exercising a major influence in the present coalition and leftist campaign.]

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